

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION II EDISON, NEW JERSEY 08837

RE: Consent to Access for Soil Testing
Jewett White Lead Company Site

Dear Property Owner:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is investigating potential soil contamination associated with the Jewett White Lead Company Site located in Port Richmond, Staten Island, New York. The site is a vacant lot on the corner of Richmond Terrace and Park Avenue (formerly the Sedutto's ice cream factory). In the late 1800s into the early 1900s, various lead companies, including Jewett White Lead Company, operated at the site, which may have resulted in the release of lead into the soils at the site.

EPA will be conducting off-site sampling around the Jewett White Lead Site. The purpose of the sampling is to determine whether lead-contaminated dusts and soils may have migrated from the site. As part of this investigation, EPA will collect samples of soil from properties located closest to the Jewett White Lead site.

We seek to determine whether your property may have been impacted by migrated contaminants from the site. EPA is planning to begin the off-site sampling in early June 2009. The disturbance to your property will be minimal, and any areas of disturbance will be restored to its prior condition by EPA.

The sampling will take approximately forty-five (45) minutes to complete, and at least one visit may be required prior to sampling to collect field measurements, confirm the sampling locations, and mark the sampling locations with flags. More than one sample may be required depending on the location and size of your property. In these cases, additional time will be required. A location will be selected that will not inconvenience you and every effort will be made to accommodate you in scheduling the work.

You will be provided with a copy of the lead sampling results as soon as they become available. None of the work performed by the EPA would involve any cost to you.

To allow us to proceed with the testing described above, please sign the enclosed letter granting access for the required testing and return it in the prepaid addressed envelope provided. EPA cannot sample your property without this signed form. We would appreciate your participation in this sampling effort.

Once I receive your consent form, I will call you to schedule a date and time to access your property for the sampling during the week of June 8, 2009. I would like to schedule a time to visit with you before we sample to hear about any concerns you may have and to allow us an opportunity to view the exterior of the house to determine potential sampling locations. To enable us to make an appointment to visit your property, please include your telephone number and indicate times that you prefer to be contacted.

EPA will have an informational meeting with you and all residents who have been asked to participate in the off-site soil sampling on Tuesday June 2, 2009 at St. Phillips Baptist Church, 77 Bennett Street from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This informational meeting will provide the opportunity for you and others to meet with EPA staff working on the project, share any concerns and questions you may have about the soil sampling. In addition, another informational meeting will be held for the Port Richmond community on Thursday June 4, 2009 at Port Richmond High School, 85 St. Josephs Avenue from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Please call me at (732) 452-6415 with questions about the consent form or the sampling event. You may also call Wanda Ayala, EPA Community Involvement Coordinator at (212) 637-3676 or toll-free at (800) 346-5009 with any site related questions or issues.

Thank you for considering participation in this assessment.

Sincerely yours,

Kimberly Staiger On-Scene Coordinator

## **Enclosures**

Cc: N. Clark, NYCDOHMH

C. Doroski NYSDOH

L. Graziano, ATSDR

N. Dmytryszyn, Borough Presidents Office

K. Hunt, Councilman Mitchell's Office

C. Cognetta, Congressman McMahon's Office

New York City Parks Department